help employment and economic growth in those areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is satisfied with the performance of the ITDC hotels; and

(d) if not, what steps Government has taken or proposes to take to make them profitable and upto the mark?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The 11 travel circuits and destinations identified for intensive development as envisaged in the National Action Plan for tourism have considerable rural areas covered therein. The development of these circuits will generate substantial economic activities in these areas and help to create job opportunities both direct and indirect for local people.

(c) and (d) Performance of ITDC hotels has not come upto the expectations of the Government during the last three years due to a number of factors, which include the law and order position in some parts of the country, recurrent strikes in the national carriers and recession in many developed countries, etc.

ITDC on their own have taken steps which include product improvement, effective sales promotion, reservation tie ups with foreign travel agencies, participation in travel fora, greater thurst on advertising, special packages targetted at domestic as well as international tourist market, strict control over expenditure, training of manpower, etc.

Loss making domestic air routes

1357. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many domestic air routes in the country known as loss making routes;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian Airlines and Vayudoot are operating their flights on such routes;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the losses suffered during the last three years;

(e) whether any private operator has opted for any of such routes; and

(f) what action Government proposes to take to make the lose making air routes profitable in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Routes operated in the North Eastern Region, Jammu and Kashmir and and Andaman and Nicobar sectors are mainly the loss making routes.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The estimated losses suffered on these routes in the last three years by Indian Airlines and Vayudoot are the following:—

	North Eastern Region	Jammu & Kashmir	Andaman & Nicobar
	(Rs. in crores)		
1990-91	25.57	5.16	2.45
1991-92	41.97	6.03	2.28
1992-93	54.74	10.29	3.16

(e) Private operators have recently started operating on two such routes.

(f) While efforts are continuing to rationalise operations and control costs, it is difficult to eliminate losses inherent in the operation of services to these regions for which subsidisation seems inevitable.

1358. [*Transferred to 10th August 1993*].

सूरत विमान क्षेत्र को राष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण को सौंपा जाना

1359. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे :** क्या नागर विमान और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार सूरत विमान क्षेत्र को राष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण को सौंपने का विचार रखती है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और सूरत विमान क्षेत्र की वर्तमान स्थिति क्या है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना अवधि के दौरान सूरत विमान क्षेत्र में सभी सुविधाएं उपलब्ध करायेगी और इस समय सूरत से कितनी दैनिक उड़ानें होती हैं ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद) : (क) से (घ) राष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण की सूरत विमान क्षेत्र को, जो गुजरात सरकार का है, न तो अपने हाथ में लेने और न ही उसका विकास करने की कोई योजना है। प्रचालानात्मक और वाणिज्यिक कारणों से वायुदूत सूरत से किसी उड़ान का प्रचालन नहीं कर रहा है।

Serving of hard drinks sn domestic/ International flights

1360. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to some hard drinks in its domestic and international flights to compete with private airlines thus violating its prohibition policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Indian Aircraft Rules, do not prohibit serving of liquor to passengers. However, Indian Airlines has no plans to serve alcoholic drinks on domestic flights. In keeping with the practice followed by international carriers, both Air India and Indian Airlines serve alcoholic drinks to passengers on international flights.

Induction and Replacement of Air Buses

1361. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new air buses proposed to be induction in Indian Airlines during 1993;

(b) the number of time barred Indian Airlines planes on the regular services and when they are likely to be replaced;

(c) what is the normal service of a commercial plane; and

(d) whether the Indian Airlines is in tight situation facing business slackness due to competition from private air lines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Seven new A-320 airbuses are being inducted during 1993. The delivery of five airbuses have already been made and the 6th and 7th airbus are scheduled to be delivered in August and November, 1993.

(b) Indian Airlines fleet does not have any time barred aircraft.

(c) There is no uniform practice in terms of years of service. Aircraft can be flown as long as airworthiness requirements are met.